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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Equatorial Guinea

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its nineteenth session from 28 April to 9 May 2014. The review of Equatorial Guinea was held at the 12th meeting, on 5 May 2014. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea was headed by Mr. Alfonso Nsue Mokuy. At its 17th meeting, held on 8 May 2014, the Working Group adopted the report on Equatorial Guinea.

2. On 15 January 2014, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Equatorial Guinea: Estonia, Japan and South Africa.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Equatorial Guinea:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Equatorial Guinea through the troika. Those questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea expressed satisfaction with regard to the significant progress that had been achieved in the field of human rights but acknowledged that challenges remained. The promulgation of the new Constitution had given new impetus to the State and to social development.

6. Fighting poverty was fundamental to advancing the full enjoyment of freedoms. Action was being taken in multiple areas, in particular social housing, hospitals and schools to enable the real enjoyment of the benefits generated by the State.

7. Pursuant to the recommendations made during the first UPR review, Equatorial Guinea had given thorough consideration to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which had been submitted to the House of Deputies and to the Senate as a step towards ratification.

8. In that connection, the implementation of Decree No. 129/2004 on the integration of persons with disabilities into social security programmes conducted by the National Association of Disabled Persons was worthy of note. The delegation provided further details in that regard.

9. The Constitution provided for the independence of the judiciary and defined in detail its attributes and functioning. In addition to the relevant legislative provisions, a number of training initiatives on human rights had been carried out.

10. The Government's decision not to tolerate torture and arbitrary detention had been applied at the national level, and robust measures had been adopted. In that context, the Ministry of National Security had developed a Police Reference Handbook on Human Rights, ,the first page of which quoted President Mbasogo, sayingwho that: "My biggest concern is, and will be, the welfare of my people; their right to safety and freedom is not negotiable. The Security and Order Forces must guarantee these rights and ensure the safety of all citizens." That statement reflected the Government's commitment to the prevention of torture, arbitrary detention and other degrading treatment.

11. Equatorial Guinea was taking steps to bring the National Human Rights Commission into line with the Paris Principles. At the same time, it was making considerable efforts to cooperate with United Nations agencies on a continuous basis, including through reporting to and engaging in constructive dialogue with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the UPR, as well as participating without reservation in the activities of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

12. A commission had been established to study the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women prior to their submission to the Council of Ministers for approval and, subsequently, to Parliament.

13. Equatorial Guinea had never been involved in the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, particularly children. The ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography had already been approved by the Government and was being considered byhad been Parliament in 2014.

14. The International Committee of the Red Cross and representatives of various religious groups had free access to detention centres at the national level. In addition, the Attorney General and the National Human Rights Commission conducted periodic inspections of detention centres. Cases involving arbitrary detention, kidnapping, torture or similar acts had been tried by military courts; persons found to have perpetrated such acts had received prison sentences or, in other cases, had been dismissed from their postsed.

15. In April 2014, the Government had decided to send the United Nations Convention against Corruption to the national Committee on Political Affairs in order to obtain its opinion. The Commission of Jurists had already decided to suggest that that instrument should be signed, but had reservations regarding the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The Government would rule on the matter once it had received the report of the Committee on Political Affairs.

16. The Office of the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor was establishing rules designed to eradicate corruption effectively. It was under an obligation to declare the financial situation of people who were under surveillance, in view of possible conflict of interests and the use of privileged information. The delegation provided detailed information on action taken in that connection.

17. In 2014, the Government had approved the accession of Equatorial Guinea to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of

children in armed conflict, which had been sent to Parliament for completion of the formalities of accession. With regard to the Rome Statute, the Government had endorsed the Declaration of the African Union.

18. A number of legal initiatives had been introduced to ensure the adequate representation and participation of women in State institutions. Consequently, women were extensively represented and participated in the Government and in the Senate. .

19. Public spending on social sectors had been increased.

20. In addition, measures had been taken with regard to urbanization, housing, electricity and sanitation, including the construction of roads to improve access to rural areas and the construction of over 15,000 dwellings nationwide.

21. Measures had also been taken to improve health, in particular with regard to maternal and child mortality in rural areas, by ensuring that 90 per cent of births were assisted by midwives.. The goal of such measures was to reduce maternal mortality by 50 per cent by 2015, and by 80 per cent by 2020.

22. Moreover, a number of measures had been introduced to combat AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, as well as malaria.

23. In connection with education, the national educational system had been reformed at various levels through the adaptation of curricula and textbooks.

24. The Ministry of the Interior was taking action to introduce more flexible criteria for the granting of permits to the numerous associations and non-governmental organizations that operated in Equatorial Guinea. Restrictions on the media had been reduced, and the fact that numerous magazines and publications flourished in the country was evidence that no censorship was imposed.

25. As a prelude to the abolition of the death penalty, the Government had adopted a Decree No. 426/2.014, declaring a temporary moratorium.

26. The Government would shortly restructure the Centre for Human Rights with a view to revitalizing it.

27. Many of the recommendations that Equatorial Guinea had not fully accepted in the past had been addressed. Those in respect of which a decision remained pending would be dealt with promptly, in order to maintain the honest and transparent dialogue between Equatorial Guinea and the United Nations system through the UPR process.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

28. During the interactive dialogue, 76 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

29. Sweden expressed concern at the lack of progress in implementing the recommendations from 2009 and at high poverty and low human development indicators, despite the high per capita income in Equatorial Guinea.

30. Switzerland expressed appreciation for the acceptance by Equatorial Guinea of all of the recommendations that it had made during the previous UPR, and encouraged Equatorial Guinea to continue its efforts to implement them.

31. Thailand noted the efforts made by Equatorial Guinea to combat human trafficking, to reduce maternal and infant mortality and to accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the steps taken towards bringing the national human rights institution into line with the Paris

Principles. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

32. Timor-Leste commended Equatorial Guinea on the constitutional reform of 2012, on progress in education, health and children's rights and on the Government's commitment to fulfilling its economic and social objectives.

33. Togo noted measures to improve the situation of women, children and disabled persons. It commended Equatorial Guinea on its efforts to ensure economic and social rights.

34. Tunisia encouraged Equatorial Guinea to intensify its efforts to eliminate gender stereotypes and to strengthen its cooperation with all of the United Nations human rights bodies.

35. Turkey welcomed the development plan, the appointment of a Deputy Prime Minister in charge of human rights and the establishment of a national human rights institution. It called for strengthened rule of law and intensified efforts concerning human rights.

36. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed concern about retaliations against human rights defenders and allegations of corruption. It urged Equatorial Guinea to ensure freedom of speech and assembly.

37. The United States of America remained concerned about arbitrary detentions and politically-motivated violence, failure to hold security forces accountable for human rights violations, and the lack of legislation protecting children from hazardous labour. It urged protection of the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly.

38. Uruguay noted the studies and national discussions conducted on the death penalty. It expressed concern about reports of corruption and the lack of an independent judiciary.

39. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the steps taken towards ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and improving the living standards of persons with disabilities, as well as advances in ensuring access to education.

40. Viet Nam noted the continued efforts of Equatorial Guinea to enhance enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially political, economic and social rights, through constitutional reform, budget transparency and capacity-building.

41. Zimbabwe commended Equatorial Guinea on its strengthened institutional mechanisms and investment in education, health, public services, water and sanitation, as well as gender equality. It urged Equatorial Guinea to improve the education for all policy and broaden human rights training and awareness-raising.

42. Algeria appreciated measures to strengthen various national institutions to ensure the best protection of human rights. It commended Equatorial Guinea on its efforts to promote economic, social and cultural rights.

43. Angola welcomed the ratification of and the harmonization of domestic legislation with international human rights instruments, the establishment of a national human rights institution and the adoption of education measures in Equatorial Guinea. It expressed concern about the female dropout rate from and access to schools.

44. Argentina noted the legislative amendments introduced and encouraged Equatorial Guinea to take further steps, including abolition of the death penalty. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to extend a permanent invitation to OHCHR and special procedures, and expressed concern about women's rights.

45. Armenia expressed continuing concern regarding the situation of women and asked about the action taken by Equatorial Guinea to improve women's access to education.

46. Australia expressed concern about access to electricity and potable water. It encouraged public education programmes on domestic violence and welcomed the moratorium on the death penalty. It expressed continuing concern about arbitrary arrests and incommunicado detentions.

47. Benin noted the progress made towards the realization of human rights and encouraged Equatorial Guinea to continue its efforts. It urged the international community to provide assistance with those efforts.

48. Botswana encouraged Equatorial Guinea to finalize pending bills that would address human rights violations effectively. It urged the Government to address sexual violence against women prisoners.

49. Brazil welcomed the commitment of Equatorial Guinea to a moratorium on the death penalty and to the development of women's rights programmes, but noted remaining challenges in respect of gender issues and of protection for other vulnerable groups.

50. Burkina Faso noted measures aimed at preventing the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons. It asked about the main challenges faced by Equatorial Guinea in connection with that ssue and the actions taken to overcome them.

51. Burundi applauded the institutional and legislative measures introduced to ensure the human rights of persons with disabilities. It also welcomed efforts to reform and strengthen the judiciary.

52. Cabo Verde encouraged Equatorial Guinea to continue its efforts relating to socioeconomic rights, particularly with regard to education, water and sanitation, electricity supplies, health and social housing. It noted the establishment of the national human rights institution.

53. Canada enquired about measures to ensure that the Ombudsman's Office was in line with the Paris Principles and that it was independent. It expressed concern about the harassment and arrest of journalists.

54. The Central African Republic encouraged Equatorial Guinea to pursue its efforts to protect human rights, and urged the international community to continue to collaborate with the country.

55. Chad commended measures introduced to improve the human rights situation in Equatorial Guinea, notably the action taken in respect of persons with disabilities.

56. Chile noted the legal and institutional reforms introduced by Equatorial Guinea, including the Constitution adopted in 2012, and associated programmes aimed at improving the promotion and protection of human rights.

57. China commended investment in education, health and public and social services, and steps towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It urged the international community to provide further technical and financial support.

58. Colombia welcomed the measures introduced by Equatorial Guinea to promote gender equality and enhance women's well-being and status, to improve the quality of education, to increase female school enrolment and to tackle child labour and HIV/AIDS, notably through awareness-raising initiatives.

59. The Congo expressed appreciation for the efforts of Equatorial Guinea in the area of health, notably the organization of awareness campaigns on the HIV pandemic and on mother-to-child transmission.

60. Slovenia noted developments regarding the law establishing a moratorium on the death penalty. It expressed continuing concern about practices and customs that violated the rights of women and girls.

61. Côte d'Ivoire noted the efforts expended by Equatorial Guinea in the areas of education and action against infant and maternal mortality. It stressed the importance of cooperation between the international community and Equatorial Guinea.

62. Cuba highlighted the Government's efforts to develop the country, including measures to reduce infant mortality, to improve education and to improve the quality of and access to health care.

63. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea said that particular efforts had been made in providing training to army, police and prison officers. It had been made clear to all civil and public servants that anyone responsible for torture contravened the conventions signed and ratified by Equatorial Guinea, and its commitment to the Human Rights Council. The proof of that was to be found in the training guide for police and uniformed officials, a copy of which had been handed to the President of the Human Rights Council.

64. Much had been done to eradicate poverty, although efforts to do so had been hampered by the fact that, as a result of the long period of unrest, the country lacked the necessary physical infrastructure. A budget allocation had therefore been made to invest in the physical infrastructure.

65. The Government worked closely with civil society. It welcomed recommendations from civil society organizations and took careful note of them, with a view to implementing them.

66. The Government had decided that, while arbitrary detention had happened in the past, it had no place in the present or the future of the country. Should it occur again, the most severe penalties would be meted out to those responsible.

67. Equatorial Guinea lacked the necessary infrastructure for a functioning press and, therefore, action was needed in that regard.

68. The President, as the Head of State and Government, did not interfere with the judiciary. The President's only link with the judiciary was as the Head of State, who therefore, presided over the Supreme Council.

69. The Government was aware of the need to overhaul the national legislation as a whole and a reform process was under way.

70. The process for ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict was also under way.

71. A minister with responsibility for HIV/AIDS and other pandemics had been appointed and health care for persons living with AIDS and other diseases was provided free of charge. That approach would be strengthened by the support of the international community.

72. Action was being taken to protect women from harmful cultural practices.

73. With regard to average incomes and large income gaps, the delegation explained that resources were not trickling down because of the need to reinvest a large portion of the national budget in the country's infrastructure.

74. The Government had taken note of the comments made concerning in connection with journalists; it affirmed that journalists played an important role in society and would be protected.

75. The delegation said that the Government would ensure that the proper legal foundations were in place for the independence of the judiciary.

76. Any government employee caught or suspected of abusing office or violating human rights would be prosecuted with the full force of the law.

77. The case of Professor Augustín Esono Nsogo had been referred to the Office of the Public Prosecutor and he had been released from prison.

78. There was no censorship in Equatorial Guinea. All press organizations published their work freely, including all accredited international organizations.

79. No members of the political opposition had been detained for some time in Equatorial Guinea, and no such cases had been recorded in the recent past.

80. Child labour was prohibited by law. Energetic action had been taken in child labour cases, as well as immediate steps to eradicate it.

81. Efforts were being made to improve university course offerings and to broaden educational programmes, in order to make sure that everyone had access to education.

82. Special efforts were being made to encourage a multi-party State, with the Government and opposition working together. An agreement had been signed between the Government and the opposition, the parties to which had promised to support a multi-party State.

83. Microcredit loans had been provided, to women in particular, as a way of boosting the economy at the grass-roots level and a minimum wage was being rolled out on a gradual basis.

84. Judicial and administrative measures had been taken to eradicate torture and arbitrary detention, and perpetrators of such violations of human rights were punished immediately.

85. The President was the Head of State and guaranteed the independence of the judiciary. The Government had taken steps to ensure that civilian cases could not be heard by military courts, and that military courts could only hear military issues.

86. Turning to diverse issues, the delegation indicated that sexual orientation was considered in the framework of general rights, which meant that all citizens of Equatorial Guinea were equal and protected under the law. In addition, an oversight and monitoring commission dealt with transparency issues, and a standing committee on corruption had been designated by the Chamber of Deputies. Human rights awareness campaigns, human rights programmes and human rights departments were being developed in a number of institutions. Lastly, the two legislative chambers would appoint an Ombudsman.

87. The Government was trying to ensure protection for human rights defenders and was considering granting them special status. The Department for Human Rights held meetings with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and discussed the implementation of UPR recommendations.

88. A moratorium on the death penalty had been introduced in February 2014. A law had been enacted which provided for compensation to victims of torture. Measures had been taken to eliminate torture and arbitrary detention, as well as unduly prolonged detention.

89. The Czech Republic said that it continued to have multiple concerns, although Equatorial Guinea had accepted most of the recommendations from 2009. It expressed concern about the severely limited space for independent human rights activism.

90. The Democratic Republic of the Congo applauded the steps taken by Equatorial Guinea to implement previous UPR recommendations, in particular that concerning the establishment of an office of the Ombudsman.

91. Djibouti noted the efforts expended by Equatorial Guinea to promote and protect human rights, notably the establishment of a juvenile court, as well as programmes for abandoned children.

92. Ecuador commended the efforts expended by Equatorial Guinea to provide education for all, including adult and adolescent girls, to raise literacy levels and to improve school facilities, as well as to address HIV/AIDS and support persons living with AIDS.

93. Egypt commended Equatorial Guinea on its comprehensive report and on its reiteration of its commitment to the UPR process.

94. Estonia encouraged Equatorial Guinea to work towards guaranteeing gender equality and women's rights and to continue with efforts to eliminate forced and early marriage and to fight against polygamy.

95. Ethiopia commended Equatorial Guinea on action taken to reduce maternal and infant mortality, to improve rural health, to combat corruption and to integrate persons with disabilities into the national social security system.

96. France applauded the ratification by Equatorial Guinea of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

97. Gabon applauded Equatorial Guinea for the steps it had taken to implement previous UPR recommendations and commended it on efforts to advance women's rights through the National Multisectoral Action Plan for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equity.

98. Germany expressed appreciation for the steps taken by Equatorial Guinea to advance the economic and social rights of the population and made a number of recommendations.

99. Ghana applauded the measures introduced by Equatorial Guinea to improve water, road and electricity infrastructure for rural communities and supported its call for international support to achieve the objectives of the National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020 .

100. Guatemala welcomed the progress made by Equatorial Guinea in the field of human rights. It shared the view of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the importance of establishing a comprehensive strategy to eliminate harmful practices and stereotypes that discriminate against women.

101. Indonesia welcomed the adoption of the National Multisectoral Action Plan for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equity and the National Plan on Education for All, as well as the establishment of the Directorate-General for Family Health.

102. Iraq welcomed the implementation of legislation to integrate persons with disabilities into the national social security system and the steps taken to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

103. Ireland noted with concern that Equatorial Guinea had not submitted any report to the treaty monitoring bodies. It expressed concern about the continued use of the death penalty, particularly the execution of four persons in 2010 after a summary military trial.

104. Italy welcomed the adoption of a moratorium on executions and urged Equatorial Guinea to abolish that heinous penalty. It expressed concern about numerous reports of torture by the police and ill-treatment of detainees.

105. Libya welcomed the measures taken on behalf of persons with disabilities. It urged the international community to assist Equatorial Guinea in achieving the objectives of the National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020.

106. Madagascar noted the achievements of Equatorial Guinea since the previous UPR cycle, notably with regard to strengthening the judiciary and promoting human rights. It urged the international community to support Equatorial Guinea.

107. Malaysia commended Equatorial Guinea on the creation of the special service for persons with disabilities. While action had been taken to combat trafficking in persons, room for improvement remained.

108. Mali commended Equatorial Guinea on its commitment to improving thehuman rights protection. Mali encouraged it to strengthen efforts to ensure the welfare of its citizens.

109. Mauritania noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Directorate-General of Special Education and the accession by Equatorial Guinea to treaties, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

110. Mexico welcomed the reform of the Constitution in 2012 and the strengthening of the Office of the Ombudsman. It hoped that increased investment in social sectors would reduce poverty and improve access to health care and education services in Equatorial Guinea.

111. Montenegro enquired about the obstacles preventing the Government from using the country's natural resources to promote equal opportunities for all. It asked whether a comprehensive strategy was being developed to eliminate practices such as forced and early marriage, as well as female stereotypes.

112. Morocco welcomed the appointment of a Deputy Prime Minister in charge of human rights, and noted the improvements made to the legislative framework, including the establishment of the Office of the Ombudsman. It also welcomed the reform of the judicial sector to ensure better access to justice.

113. Mozambique commended Equatorial Guinea for the steps it had taken to promote human rights. It noted the development regarding the law establishing a moratorium on the death penalty.

114. The Netherlands expressed concern about discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, despite the fact that discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons was punishable by law.

115. Nicaragua noted the progress achieved in the field of education and encouraged Equatorial Guinea to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

116. Nigeria urged Equatorial Guinea to prioritize the establishment of a platform for fundamental rights and freedoms, to boost health-care facilities, particularly for women and children, and to accede to the Optional Protocol to the International CovenantConvention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

117. Norway expressed concern about the situation of human rights defenders and journalists. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to

the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and to adhere to principles of transparency in the management of natural resources.

118. Paraguay noted with concern the lack of a clear definition of discrimination against women. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to step up its efforts to submit pending reports to the treaty bodies.

119. The Philippines encouraged Equatorial Guinea to give serious consideration to recommendations aimed at protecting women from discrimination and abuse, and urged it to engage more closely with regional and international partners to promote economic, social and cultural rights.

120. Portugal welcomed the creation of the Office of the Ombudsman and the implementation of the National Programme for education of adult, young and adolescent females. It emphasized the need for full compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

121. The Republic of Korea called for further action to combat stereotypes and harmful practices affecting women. It invited the Government to pay greater attention to allegations by civil society organizations concerning civil and political rights.

122. The Russian Federation applauded the steps taken by Equatorial Guinea to implement previous UPR recommendations. Although some progress had been made, it remained concerned about the human rights situation in the country.

123. Rwanda noted considerable improvements in respect of the human rights situation in Equatorial Guinea, notably the establishment of the Office of the Ombudsman 'sand the National Multisectoral Action Plan for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equity.

124. Sierra Leone applauded the action taken to address gender discrimination, the reform of the Constitution and developments that had facilitated access to justice.

125. Singapore commended the education system reforms and the focus on reducing school dropout rates. It welcomed measures to combat gender-based discrimination and violence.

126. Costa Rica hoped that the Government's education plans and programmes would include human rights education and training. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to abolish the death penalty.

127. South Africa welcomed efforts to address HIV/AIDS, and the National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020.

128. South Sudan commended Equatorial Guinea on action taken on behalf of persons with disabilities, on budgetary allocations to charitable organizations and on the policy of free education and university access for vulnerable sectors of society.

129. Spain welcomed the participation of Equatorial Guinea in the UPR process.

130. The Sudan encouraged the Government to step up its efforts to guarantee free education, and to take further action to protect women against harmful and irresponsible practices and to guarantee fair treatment of women at all levels.

131. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea acknowledged the statements of the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali and Mauritania and took serious note of a number of issues that they had raised . It would transmit their recommendations to the Government and authorities, and steps would be taken.

132. The issues raised by those countries included the importance of education for women and girls and for persons with disabilities; the need to envisage the abolition of the death penalty; the need to enhance cooperation with international organizations and friendly countries; the importance of making efforts to ratify all relevant instruments pertaining to the rights of persons with disabilities and to put in place the necessary domestic legislation, although much had been already done in that regard; the need to take stock of all pending reports to United Nations mechanisms and to take the necessary steps to ensure the submission of such reports, with the support of human rights bodies.

133. All other statements had been duly noted, and the necessary steps would be taken.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

134. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below enjoy the support of Equatorial Guinea:**

134.1 **Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ghana);**

134.2 **Ratify the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education (Ghana);**

134.3 **Sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the International CovenantConvention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**

134.4 **Accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);**

134.5 **Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Burundi);**

134.6 **Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Chad);**

134.7 **Accelerate the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Congo);**

134.8 **Finalize the process already under way for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mexico);**

134.9 **Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Togo);**

134.10 **Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ethiopia);**

134.11 **Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the future (Malaysia);**

134.12 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);**

134.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Czech Republic);**

** Conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

134.14 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Estonia);

134.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and make this a priority line of action of the Government (Spain);

134.16 Cooperate with all treaty bodies, including by submitting its initial report, which has been overdue since 2003, to the Committee against Torture (Ghana);

134.17 Cooperate with treaty bodies by submitting its reports (Congo);

134.18 Improve cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Mali);

134.19 Submit without delay its overdue reports under the international human rights treaties to which it is a party, if necessary seeking technical support from OHCHR (Ireland);

134.20 Make up the delay in the submission of overdue reports to treaty bodies (Burkina Faso);

134.21 Submit its overdue reports to the respective treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);

134.22 Submit periodic reports on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture (Mali);

134.23 Implement urgently all accepted recommendations from 2009 that remain outstanding (Sweden);

134.24 Continue determined efforts to improve national legislation in the area of the promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of its citizens (Russian Federation);

134.25 Legally establish an independent judiciary and ensure that all laws are in line with the principles of international law (Switzerland);

134.26 Create an independent national human rights institution, as well as facilitate the legal recognition of NGOs and human rights defenders, simplifying the procedure for their recognition and functioning (Spain);

134.27 Strengthen the effectiveness of the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor through public oversight mechanisms for official payments made and for the assets of senior officials of the State (Spain);

134.28 Continue making efforts to promote civil, political, economic, social, environmental and cultural rights in all areas of society (Nicaragua);

134.29 Establish an inclusive process to follow up the UPR recommendations (Norway);

134.30 Disseminate and implement effectively the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Norway);

134.31 Prioritize the promotion of the rights of the child by ensuring that national legislation is in line with its obligations under the relevant international human rights instruments, by providing more resources to create and fully implement programmes that promote the security and safety of

children, such as measures to eradicate corporal punishment and domestic violence, and by improving access to and the quality of education and health services (Philippines);

134.32 **Improve public access to information on legal and policy measures taken by the Government in the field of human rights (Republic of Korea);**

134.33 **Consolidate achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights (Côte d'Ivoire);**

134.34 **Strengthen efforts aimed at planning public policies for the protection of the rights of women through their active participation in the political, economic and social development of the country (Ecuador);**

134.35 **Carry out awareness-raising campaigns at the community level regarding women's and girls' rights, and combat any discriminatory practices against women and girls (Portugal);**

134.36 **Take all measures necessary to eliminate discrimination against women, on the basis of a comprehensive strategy aimed at eliminating discriminatory practices and stereotypes and, also, violence against women (Turkey);**

134.37 **Put in place a comprehensive strategy aimed at eliminating discriminatory stereotypes against women (Rwanda);**

134.38 **Carry out a large awareness campaign among the population to change the mindset of those groups which resist women's emancipation and perpetuate practices and customs contrary to human rights (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

134.39 **Continue efforts to improve opportunities for women in order to ensure that they participate on an equal footing in public life and all sectors of society (Sudan);**

134.40 **Continue strengthening the implementation of measures aimed at eliminating harmful and discriminatory practices against women, including measures that favour the participation of women in politics and in the main positions of public administration (Colombia);**

134.41 **Step up efforts aimed at addressing deep-rooted stereotypes that still have a negative impact on the rights of women, and fight against heinous traditional practices such as early and forced marriage; (Italy);**

134.42 **Strengthen human rights education programmes in order to eliminate discrimination (Djibouti);**

134.43 **Take additional measures to promote equality of access to employment (Egypt);**

134.44 **Enact the law on the establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty as soon as possible (Slovenia);**

134.45 **Put in place a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Ireland);**

134.46 **Introduce a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ending its application (Germany);**

134.47 **Promulgate legislation on a moratorium on the death penalty, as referred to in the national report (South Africa);**

134.48 **Advance efforts to impose a formal moratorium on executions with a view to acceding to the relevant conventions, including the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Sierra Leone);**

134.49 **Continue intensifying its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including by the adoption of a regulatory framework to address the exploitation of women and children (Malaysia);**

134.50 **Redouble its efforts to further protect children from trafficking (Philippines);**

134.51 **Consider the possibility of improving the conditions of detention and of reforming its penitentiary system (Russian Federation);**

134.52 **Improve detention conditions, in particular by allowing all detainees to refer their case to a judge and by abolishing all forms of arbitrary or secret detention (Switzerland);**

134.53 **Increase efforts to prevent any abuse against people in police custody and improve the living conditions of detainees (Italy);**

134.54 **Take necessary measures to deal with the situation of women in prisons and protect them against all forms of violence, especially against harassment and sexual violence (Central African Republic);**

134.55 **Take effective action to end violence against women and children, including by making it a criminal offence and by holding perpetrators accountable (Germany);**

134.56 **Set up a national programme to fight violence against women, especially domestic violence (Russian Federation);**

134.57 **Continue to implement measures to enhance the protection of women and girls against violence (Singapore);**

134.58 **Do more to ensure the effective prosecution of domestic violence cases (Australia);**

134.59 **Provide law enforcement officials with human rights training and intensify the fight against impunity for acts of torture (Czech Republic);**

134.60 **Apply Act No. 6/2006 preventing and punishing torture and prosecute those who are suspected of involvement in this type of crime, including members of security forces (Canada);**

134.61 **Continue to develop programmes aimed at providing support to vulnerable children and, specifically, eradicate the practice of corporal punishment (Djibouti);**

134.62 **Hold security forces and other government officials accountable for human rights violations, including the use of torture and arbitrary arrests and detention of members of the opposition (United States of America);**

134.63 **Take measures to fight effectively against impunity, notably for acts of torture and sexual violence, in particular when those incriminated are involved in law enforcement (France);**

134.64 **Ensure that due process of law is observed in all judicial proceedings, including by bringing detainees before an independent judge within 72 hours**

and by refraining from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in order to extract confessions (Germany);

134.65 **Provide all those arrested with early access to legal representation (Australia);**

134.66 **Review the provisions of domestic criminal law in line with international provisions in order to introduce the corresponding amendments, in particular the effective adoption of the habeas corpus procedure (Chile);**

134.67 **Allow journalists and human rights defenders to work in a safe environment, notably by prosecuting all those responsible for intimidating or making threats against them (France);**

134.68 **Promote the creation of pluralist, free and independent information bodies, ensure that the independence of the press is respected and protected and authorize peaceful demonstrations, as recommended previously (Switzerland);**

134.69 **Take measures to promote and protect freedom of expression (Botswana);**

134.70 **Continue to take measures to accelerate the increase in the participation of women in political decision-making positions, the judiciary and the civil service (Egypt);**

134.71 **Ensure freedom of expression and information through the independence and pluralism of the media (France);**

134.72 **Put an end to restrictions hindering the free exercise of the right to freedom of expression, assembly and association (Spain);**

134.73 **Continue to insist on making poverty reduction a priority and make efforts to improve people's living standards in order to achieve positive progress in ensuring the National Economic and Development Plan for Horizon 2020 (China);**

134.74 **Consider allocating adequate amounts of its available resources for social services and assistance, and continue stepping up efforts to combat poverty, especially in rural areas (Egypt);**

134.75 **Step up efforts to combat poverty, especially in rural areas and disadvantaged and marginalized regions, and allocate sufficient funding for this purpose; and ensure that economic, social and cultural rights are fully addressed in all anti-poverty measures (South Africa);**

134.76 **Adopt a national plan for poverty reduction, supported by a follow-up mechanism (Togo);**

134.77 **Increase social spending to meet basic needs, and establish independent means to monitor and evaluate this expenditure (Australia);**

134.78 **Continue progress to deliver the objectives set through its National Plan for Economic and Social Development by 2020 (Cuba);**

134.79 **Make appropriate and transparent budget allocations for poverty alleviation, primary education, basic health care and sanitation, to realize fundamental economic and social rights, particularly in respect of the poorest, and fully account for all social spending (Sweden);**

134.80 **Continue efforts aimed at improving access to malaria diagnosis and related treatment by 2020 (Algeria);**

134.81 **Continue to ensure that all pregnant women are provided with diagnosis for HIV/AIDS and access to antiretroviral treatment free of charge, in order to prevent mother-to-child transmission (Thailand);**

134.82 **Improve access to free health care in remote areas (Libya);**

134.83 **Allocate a major proportion of its budget to public health, emphasizing the supply of safe drinking water and sanitation services (Spain);**

134.84 **Take all necessary measures to improve women's access to reproductive health and related services (Armenia);**

134.85 **Continue taking measures aimed to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and to prevent mother-to-child transmission (Colombia);**

134.86 **Step up its efforts to increase enrolment and completion rates for primary and secondary schools, especially for girls (Thailand);**

134.87 **Continue to guarantee the allocation of adequate resources for the effective implementation of educational programmes, and intensify its efforts to address low enrolment rates in primary and basic education (Egypt);**

134.88 **Intensify efforts to ensure access to education, including efforts to increase enrolment and completion rates (Ethiopia);**

134.89 **Implement the National Plan for Education for All effectively and take urgent steps to address the root causes of the high dropout rate for girls (Ghana);**

134.90 **Continue to improve its education system and ensure access to quality education for all, in cooperation with UNESCO (Singapore);**

134.91 **Continue efforts to decrease female dropout rates from school by implementing more measures (South Sudan);**

134.92 **Strengthen efforts to ensure access to education in all areas of the country, including rural areas (Sudan);**

134.93 **Consider pursuing a policy aimed at capacity-building to develop the country's cultural sector (Egypt);**

134.94 **Strengthen the adoption of measures aimed at ensuring greater education coverage (Colombia);**

134.95 **Continue efforts to improve education and raise school enrolment at the primary level (China);**

134.96 **Continue strengthening its correct education policies as well as the social protection programmes which are being implemented, with a view to providing the best standard of living for its people (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

134.97 **Continue its efforts to increase school attendance rates and solve the issues of access to educational establishments, without overlooking the need to continually monitor the implementation of the sectoral action plan to promote women and gender equality (Angola);**

134.98 **Continue strengthening the social protection programmes adopted for persons with disabilities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

134.99 Advance in the implementation of measures aimed at improving the situation of persons with disabilities (Colombia);

134.100 Continue to take measures to implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention to fully afford detained immigrants the right to contact their consular representatives (Ghana);

134.101 Continue to actively seek technical cooperation and assistance from the international community and development partners in order to effectively implement programmes and policies aimed at providing health services and quality education for all citizens (Timor-Leste);

134.102 Maintain constructive and cooperative dialogue with the United Nations system in the field of human rights (Timor-Leste).

135. The following recommendations will be examined by Equatorial Guinea, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council, in September 2014:

135.1 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, as well as the Rome Statute (Tunisia);

135.2 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of their Families (Ghana);

135.3 Ratify the Migrant Workers Convention (Mali);

135.4 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mali);

135.5 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the Rome Statute (Paraguay);

135.6 Sign or ratify the regional and international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, in particular the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the African Union Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Corruption (Madagascar);

135.7 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, as soon as possible (Slovenia);

135.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Estonia);

135.9 Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Morocco);

135.10 Take further steps towards the total abolition of the death penalty and, as a matter of priority, sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Portugal);

135.11 Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France);

135.12 Enforce the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights fully and accede to its Second Optional Protocol (Estonia);

135.13 **Remove the death penalty from its criminal statutes and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

135.14 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Gabon);**

135.15 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Rwanda);**

135.16 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Burkina Faso);**

135.17 **Accelerate the process of accession and then ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Cabo Verde);**

135.18 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Burkina Faso);**

135.19 **Accelerate the process of accession and then ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Cabo Verde);**

135.20 **Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chad);**

135.21 **Consider ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Ethiopia);**

135.22 **Consider ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Rwanda);**

135.23 **Make additional efforts to fight against corruption and promptly accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to ensure that society can better benefit from the economic and commercial development of the country (Turkey);**

135.24 **Continue efforts to strengthen legal frameworks and their implementation, through, inter alia, completing the ratification process of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention against Corruption (Indonesia);**

135.25 **Cooperate with the human rights mechanisms and extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Costa Rica);**

135.26 **Extend an open invitation to all mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders (Uruguay);**

135.27 **Extend an open invitation to special procedures (Guatemala);**

135.28 **Issue standing invitations to all special procedures (Ghana);**

135.29 **Issue a standing invitation to all of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Republic of Korea);**

135.30 **Take measures aimed at guaranteeing the effective and impartial implementation of legislation and at putting an end to impunity in cases of domestic violence (Argentina);**

135.31 **Adopt legislation that defines gender-based violence as a crime, and offer assistance to victims (Mexico);**

135.32 **Expedite the process of elaboration and adoption of a law that defines and prohibits discrimination against women (Paraguay);**

135.33 **Speed up the process for bringing the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);**

135.34 **Effectively establish the institution of the Ombudsman created in 2012 and ensure its compliance with the Paris Principles (France);**

135.35 **Select the Ombudsman without delay and in line with the Paris Principles (Australia);**

135.36 **Establish a national human rights institution that is in line with the Paris Principles and fully independent of Ggovernment control (Germany);**

135.37 **Ensure the establishment and independence of a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);**

135.38 **Continue efforts to strengthen the National Human Rights Commission to be fully in line with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);**

135.39 **Operationalize the National Human Rights Commission and ensure that it is in line with the Paris Principles (Morocco);**

135.40 **Speed up the process of bringing the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles, so as to strengthen its mandate (Mozambique);**

135.41 **Establish, in consultation with civil society, a clear and transparent fiscal policy to manage revenues, combat corruption and account for the use of public funds (Sweden);**

135.42 **Step up efforts to prevent the diversion of public funds and to combat cases of corruption (Uruguay);**

135.43 **Continue and further strengthen measures to fight against acts of corruption and embezzlement of public funds (Côte d'Ivoire);**

135.44 **Strengthen public policies allowing for the elimination of forced and early marriage, levirate marriage and other harmful practices threatening the rights of women (Paraguay);**

135.45 **Continue the patterns that it has legitimately and sovereignly marked out for its democratic course and good governance, with the effective implementation of the culture of acknowledging and respecting each and every one of the human rights in the idiosyncratic customs of the societies and cultures that compose the mosaic of the State of Equatorial Guinea (Viet Nam);**

135.46 **Strengthen existing policies aimed at continued improvement of the electoral system, including with the aid of international cooperation, and taking into account a cross-cutting gender perspective (Brazil);**

135.47 **Strengthen efforts to empower women by amending legislation that discriminates against women in matters of polygamy, inheritance and child custody, and put legislation in place regarding domestic violence, rape, including marital rape, and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence (Netherlands);**

135.48 **Accelerate the process for the drafting and adoption of a law on gender equality (Guatemala);**

135.49 **Define and prohibit discrimination against women (Guatemala);**

135.50 **Consider revising the law on customary marriage with a view to guaranteeing equal succession rights to women, and establish a minimum age of 18 years for marriage (Sierra Leone);**

135.51 **Initiate an awareness-raising campaign on the importance of equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons in order to foster a climate of true social acceptance, in the spirit of the Constitution of Equatorial Guinea (Netherlands);**

135.52 **Expedite the process of enacting the moratorium on executions and then consider the total abolition of the death penalty (Turkey);**

135.53 **Establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Montenegro);**

135.54 **Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);**

135.55 **Examine the possibility of abolishing the death penalty (Ecuador);**

135.56 **Declare and implement a moratorium on the death penalty and initiate constitutional and legislative reforms aiming at its full abolition (Spain);**

135.57 **Commission further studies on the issue of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Mozambique);**

135.58 **Reinforce measures to fight against migrant smuggling and human trafficking, which are at risk of increasing in Equatorial Guinea and in the entire subregion (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

135.59 **Reinforce policies to fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling (Côte d'Ivoire);**

135.60 **Consider releasing, on humanitarian grounds, inmates whose detention puts at risk their health and life; (Italy);**

135.61 **Accelerate the process of adopting specific legislation and a national action plan to combat all forms of violence against women, particularly those in vulnerable situations, including migrants, persons with disabilities and women in detention facilities (Philippines);**

135.62 **End the practice of secret detention and guarantee that due legal process is followed, in line with international standards (Mexico);**

135.63 **Take concrete measures to guarantee respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms of all the population, and take the necessary actions to investigate and punish those responsible for the kidnapping of refugees, arbitrary detention, torture, executions and enforced disappearances (Argentina);**

135.64 **Advance in the allocation to the judiciary of the necessary financial resources with a view to achieving its full independence, as well as guaranteeing due transparency and efficiency in the administration of justice (Uruguay);**

135.65 **Continue strengthening the legal and institutional reform process in order to safeguard the full independence and transparency of the judiciary, including effective monitoring and accountability mechanisms (Chile);**

135.66 **Reform the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure in order to bring them in line with international standards, and improve all aspects of conditions of detention (Cabo Verde);**

135.67 **Eliminate discrimination against women in the area of marriage by prohibiting polygamy and eradicating the practices of child, early and forced marriage and by ensuring equal inheritance rights for men and women (Canada);**

135.68 **Permit journalists, NGOs and human rights experts to enter Equatorial Guinea and carry out their work without hindrance or risk of retaliation against those they meet (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.69 **Act in earnest to prevent harassment, politically motivated arrests and arbitrary detentions of political opponents and to guarantee that they have equal access to funding and the media, and that all citizens are granted the right to free participation in public and political life (Czech Republic);**

135.70 **Adopt further and effective measures to prevent and punish episodes of harassment against journalists and human rights defenders, and ensure that nobody is arrested for exercising their right to freedom of expression (Italy);**

135.71 **Take measures to effectively guarantee freedom of expression, assembly and association, prevent censorship and undue control of the media, protect journalists and investigate all attacks against them (Czech Republic);**

135.72 **Increase transparency through the provision of public access to information about financial and other material interests of government ministers (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.73 **Take necessary steps, such as streamlining organizational registration processes and allowing independent media to operate in the country, to foster an environment where opposition parties, journalists, civil society, and all citizens of Equatorial Guinea can operate freely, independently, and without fear (United States of America);**

135.74 **Adopt measures to guarantee the freedom of the press in line with international standards, including the decriminalization of defamation (Chile);**

135.75 **Guarantee the right to freedom of association by the establishment of an open political space allowing all citizens to exercise this right without interference (Canada);**

135.76 **Ease requirements for the registration of all NGOs and facilitate unhindered operation of all civil society actors, including human rights defenders (Czech Republic);**

135.77 **Establish necessary measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including raising the minimum age for all hazardous work to 18 and developing a list of hazardous occupations and activities not permitted for children (United States of America);**

135.78 **Set priorities and allocate necessary resources for implementing its National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020, with more**

focus on employment for youth, gender equality, urban planning, adequate housing, health care and education (Viet Nam);

135.79 **Reinforce and widen the scope of laudable initiatives such as the rationalization by the National Institute of Statistics of investment on social issues such as health infrastructure, access to water and sanitation, and curbing HIV/AIDS (Brazil);**

135.80 **Continue efforts for the implementation of the road map aimed at reducing maternal mortality by half by 2015, and by 80 per cent by 2020 (Algeria);**

135.81 **Take measures to guarantee the effective implementation of free education and ensure that children complete primary education, taking also into account gender disparities (Nicaragua);**

135.82 **Take measures to prioritize the protection of girls and women, and to curb school dropout by teenage girls, and adopt specific legislation for their protection against violence and forced marriage (Costa Rica);**

135.83 **Do everything to eradicate the phenomenon of illegal trafficking of migrants, trafficking of human beings and especially the phenomenon of child trafficking and prostitution (Burundi).**

136. **The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Equatorial Guinea and would thus be noted.**

136.1 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; (Ghana);**

136.2 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and ensure its implementation (Botswana);**

136.3 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Uruguay);**

136.4 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute (Montenegro);**

136.5 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Estonia);**

136.6 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France).**

137. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Equatorial Guinea was headed by Mr. Alfonso Nsue Mokuy, Third Deputy Prime Minister in charge of human rights, and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Evangelina Filomena Oyo Ebule, Minister of Justice, Worship and Penitentiary Institutions;
- Ms. Mari Crmen Ecoro, Minister of Social Affairs and Gender Equality;
- Mr. Silvestre Siale Bileke, Senator;
- Ms. Ana María Ndje, Assistant for the Third Deputy Prime Minister in charge of human rights;
- Ms Pilar Djombe Ndjangani, Senator;
- Mr. German Ekua Sima, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea;
- Mr. Manuel Mba Nchama, General Director of Human Rights;
- Ms. Claudia Ayecaba Ondo, General Cabinet Director;
- Ms. Carina Monsterrat Nsue Ndje, General Protocol Director;
- Mr. José Fernando Siale Ndjangani, Lawyer;
- Ms. Rosa Mba Nsue, National Focal Point on Human Rights;
- Mr. Diosdado Ondo Nguema, Journalist;
- Mr. Frederico Eyegue Obama, Aide-de-camp to the third Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Human Rights;
- Ms. Sinforosa, member of civil society.